



ECHO

(Every Catholic Has Obligations)

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
ST STEPHEN COUNCIL #14084
Riverview, FL.
www.kofc14084.org



Vol 1

November 2006

NO. 2

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

(Continued on page 7)

November 8	Admissions Committee Mtg 6:30 PM (Church Nursery)
November 8	COUNCIL BUSINESS MEETING 8 PM (Church MPR)
November 10	Banquet of Life 6 PM (St Lawrence Higgins Hall)
November 14	First Degree Exemplification 7 PM (Nativity)
November 15	COUNCIL PLANNING MEETING 8 PM (Church MPR)
November 18	Second Degree Exemplification 10 AM (Tentative)
November 19	RJS Concession (Bucs vs Washington)
November 26	Fourth Degree Exemplification (Orlando)
November 29	Memorial Mass 7 PM (Church)
November 30	Advent Gathering—Hay Ride
December 3-6	Advent Mission (Church)
December 3	Nativity Scene Lighting
December 8	Feast of the Immaculate Conception
December 9	Second Degree Exemplification (School)
December 10	RJS Concession (Bucs vs Atlanta)
December 12	First Degree Exemplification (Nativity)
December 13	Admissions Committee Mtg 6:30 PM (Church Nursery)
December 13	COUNCIL BUSINESS MEETING 8 PM (Church MPR)
December 20	COUNCIL PLANNING MEETING 8 PM (Church MPR)
December 31	RJS Concession (Bucs vs Seattle)
January 1	Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God
January 3	COUNCIL BUSINESS MEETING 8 PM (Church MPR)
January 6	Road Cleanup (Bell Shoals)



GRAND KNIGHTS REPORT

Rick Hughes

657-0343

grandknight@kofc14084.org

Brothers one and all:

It has been a busy couple of months. Our “Keep Christ in Christmas Campaign” has gotten into full swing. John Sepessy surprisingly strong sales on Christmas cards—clearly there is a need out there! The Church Committee has a great group of volunteers that are exploring many facets of support to our parish. Thanks to Jerry Westbrook and his committee for leading the way in the Council!

Chuck Lusky put together a great Blue Mass in September, as well as initiating our assigned road cleanup. There will be a lot more coming with the campaign for the mentally handicapped (otherwise known as the Tootsie Roll campaign) and the Special Olympics, so stay tuned. One area of emphasis that we want to ramp up is our pro-life activities. The Council was able to be a table sponsor for the Banquet of Life held on November 10 in support of Catholic Charities Pregnancy Plus Medical. Joining Melodee and me for dinner and a silent auction were Tom and Bonnie Cummings, Tom and Andrea Cummings, John and Maria Columbia, and Nick and Carolyn Turco. We had a fun evening, but more importantly, we were able to show our support of this important work.

Tom Bailey is continuing to drive on in the Youth Committee. We have a Substance Abuse Poster Contest and a Basketball Free Throw competition coming up, and he will need lots of help.

We have many more things we could be doing in the way of Community, Youth, Family, and COuncil—we just need some more volunteers to help the committee chairmen bring their programs to fruition. Still, it is clear we have sustained the energy level of our Council! There is a lot of energy being generated in our Council, as many outside observers have noted!

We had a successful Membership Blitz and added nine new members to our rolls in October. That puts us way over quota from the perspective of Supreme and State, and keeps on track for our own goals. Remember, we want to add a total of 40 new members in our first year. With the number of men in our parish, this should not be a difficult goal to meet. There is no reason why every Catholic man should not consider being a Knight—he just needs to be asked!

As I said last month, the key to a healthy, active, and successful Council is to ask every member to contribute something to the Council. If you have not already done so, please sign up for least one of the Program Committees (Church, Community, Family, Youth, Council, Membership). Committee membership is a requirement for advancement to Second Degree. Even if you can only participate infrequently, getting involved in your area of interest will help out the Council. And continue to be visible as a Knight in whatever ministry you perform in the parish. Wear a KofC nametag and the emblem of the Order and show your pride!

Unfortunately, in the midst of our successes, we also had some tragedy, with Tim Donahue’s wife Iras passing away. Thanks to all who responded with support to Tim in his hour of need.

We are still struggling to get a newsletter out, but that is my fault. We will try to get this out on a regular basis. Again, we will continue to email the newsletter while we to put together a sound financial basis for publishing and mailing hardcopies of the newsletter.

Vivat Jesus!

OFFICERS

Grand Knight

Rick Hughes

Chaplain

Fr. Bill Swengros

Deputy Grand Knight

Frank Wuco

Chancellor

Tony Westbrook

Warden

Tim Donahue

Financial Secretary

Ed Smith

Treasurer

Chuck Lusky

Advocate

Jerry Westbrook

Recorder

John Columbia, Jr.

Lecturer

Tom Cummings IV

Guards

Inside: John Columbia III

Outside: Craig Diemer

Warren Woods

Trustees

1 Year: Ed Milius, PGK

2 Years: Allen Eckerle, PGK

3 Years: Nick Turco, PGK

Field Agent

Thomas P. Cummings III

813-625-2444

Email: Thomas.Cummings@kofc.org

DIRECTORS & CHAIRS

Membership Director

Julio Alvarez, Jr.

Program Director

Frank Wuco

Church Committee

Jerry Westbrook

Community Committee

Chuck Lusky

Council Committee

Ed Milius

Family Committee

Vacant

Youth Committee

Tom Bailey

Degree Team Captain

Ed Milius

Public Relations

Tony Westbrook

RJS Concessions Contact

Julio Alvarez, Jr.

Newsletter Editor

Dave Morrow

Resource Links

Council Web Site

www.kofc14084.org

Florida State Council

www.floridastatecouncil.com

Supreme Council:

www.kofc.org

Fr McGivney Guild

www.fathermcgivney.org

News from Supreme Council

Supreme Knight Carl A. Anderson has been appointed by Pope Benedict XVI as a consultant to the Pontifical Council for Social Communications for a five-year term. The Pontifical Council for Social Communications, under the direction of Archbishop John P. Foley, a Philadelphia native and a Knight of Columbus, is responsible for addressing issues and interests in cinema, radio, television, and the news media as they pertain to the teaching and mission of the Catholic Church.

Are you willing to volunteer to help with hurricane recovery efforts in the Gulf state areas affected by the 2005 hurricanes? We'll put you in touch with Knights of Columbus coordinators in the affected states. If you have a preferred state you would like to volunteer in, please select it below and Supreme will make every attempt to match you to that state. Volunteers who choose "View All" will be matched to the area of greatest need.

[Louisiana](#)

[Mississippi](#)

[View All](#)

District Deputy's Report

My brothers, I bring you greetings from the Supreme Knight and Board of Directors of the Supreme Council and our State Deputy, Bob Read. By the time you read this Halloween will have passed. I hope you had more treats than tricks. November is a busy month. The Church celebrates All Saints Day and All Souls Day on the first two days of the month. Hopefully you will take advantage of these days and attend Mass! Councils should already have planned a Mass to pray for their deceased members. Remember to include widows and family members.

On November 7, we have the opportunity to exercise one of our most valued rights: the right to vote. It is amazing that with absentee ballots, early voting, and voting precincts all over the place and open very long hours that perhaps fifty percent of eligible voters actually vote. The country that holds itself out as the beacon for democracy can manage to get only half of the voters to exercise this right. In my military travels around the world I saw people in many countries stand in line for hours to exercise their right for self governance. Recently, we have seen Iraqis risk death in order to vote and proudly show proof of having cast their ballot. EXERCISE YOUR RIGHT ! Encourage others to vote and help disabled people to vote.

November 10 is the Banquet of Life which benefits Pregnancy Plus Medical arm of Catholic Charities. On November 23, as a nation we stop to take inventory of our blessings and to thank our Creator for His blessings. It's a great day for good eating and football but don't lose sight of what we celebrate.

"Keep Christ in Christmas" activities should be underway as we get prepared for the celebration of our Savior's birth. We don't celebrate "winter break", "seasons greetings", or even "Xmas".

There is a first degree at Nativity on Nov 14; a second degree tentatively set for Nov 18 at St Stephen; there is a third degree Nov 4 in Port Richey and Nov 11 in Orlando - nothing closer until next year; and the Fourth Degree Exemplification in Orlando on Nov 25.

Each council has many activities planned or underway. If you haven't been in touch for awhile now would be a good time to get re-connected. The Knights of Columbus organization continues to grow because we are active leaders in our communities. YOU are the active leaders in your community. Even if you are infirm or aged you can be a blessing to your council. In some cases we may have lost touch with you. Help us out and let us know who you are. See YOU at the next council meeting. Mary, Queen of the Knights, pray for us!

Jim Merkling
District Deputy

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Church</u> <i>Jerry Westbrook 651-1043</i> <i>jerrywestbrock@tampabay.rr.com</i></p> <p>The Keep Christ In Christmas Campaign is in full swing. We were very successful in selling Christmas Cards this year. With the construction of outdoor Nativity Sets and roadside banners, we have a lot to keep us occupied in the next two months.</p> <p>Christmas at Hospice House—<i>Frank Hannington</i> Evangelization—<i>Frank Hannington</i> Keep Christ in Christmas Campaign—<i>John Sepessy</i> Parochial Services—<i>Steve Haines</i> Religious Devotions—<i>Bernie Loughlin</i> Vocations—<i>Nick Turco</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Family</u> <i>Vacant</i></p> <p>Unfortunately, we had to cancel out our family potluck last month. Because of the busy church calendar, our next family potluck will not be until Jan 19. Please mark your calendars!</p> <p>We had a small but fun family gathering at the Golden Corral following the Corporate Communion. We hope to see more of you at future gatherings.!</p> <p>We have been asked to help out with sponsoring a hay ride at the Advent Gathering on We have many ideas for future events—bowling nights, field trips, etc.—so please give Stan a call if you can help out.</p> <p>Every month we seek nominations for Family of the Month. If you know of a Knight's family deserving of recognition for their ministry and/or their display of Christian values, please contact the Grand Knight,.</p> <p>Due to family and other commitments, Stan Hinde has had to resign as Family Director. Please step forward if you are in heading up this important component of our Council!</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Community</u> <i>Chuck Lusky 643-5587</i> <i>clusky@tampabay.rr.com</i></p> <p>The Community Committee. We are still short-handed, so if you have some interest, it is a great place to volunteer. Our first road cleanup on Sep 30 was a success, and we should be getting our signs soon. Our next road cleanup will be on Saturday Jan 6. The Blue Mass on Sep 27 was also a success.</p> <p>Tootsie Roll Campaign is set for Feb 10 and 11 after Masses, with a TBD date for commercial venues. More next month. Mark you calendars for Special Olympics at USF on Apr 28, 2007.</p> <p>We are still looking to jump start a Military Family Support Committee to assist families of deployed military parishioners. If you have a calling for this ministry, please contact Chuck Lusky at 643-5587 or Greg Grambor at 653-3131.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Youth</u> <i>Tom Bailey 689-3613</i> <i>tebe1021@yahoo.com</i></p> <p>One of our Soccer Challenge champions in September won the regional championship and will be competing in the State Championship in Orlando on Nov 18th!</p> <p>Look for upcoming details on the Substance Abuse Poster Contest and the Freethrow competition. If you are interested in in helping out on these events, or if you have other ideas on how to support our Catholic youth, please contact Tom Bailey.</p>

Council

*Ed Milius 689-6565
Ed_Milius@yahoo.com*

We had a small gathering for our first Corporate Communion on Oct 15 at the 8 AM Mass. A group of us followed up with an enjoyable breakfast at the Golden Corral. Hopefully, more of you will join us at our next one!

Don't forget our Memorial Mass on Nov 29th at 7 PM at the church. We will be honoring all deceased Knights at this Mass.

Joe Saski continues to improve our Council web site. If you have not seen it lately, be sure to take a look! Joe has done a fantastic job on the web site—it is www.kofc14084.org.

Second Degree team continues to practice. We just delayed our inaugural Exemplification until Dec to give us a little more practice time. If you would like to

RJS Schedule

*Julio Alvarez 662-1845
jalvarez8@tampabay.rr.com*

Nov 19 Bucs vs Washington
Dec 10 Bucs v Atlanta
Dec 31 Bucs Seattle
Jan 1 Outback Bowl

For 1 PM games, we meet at the Church at 8 AM to car pool to the stadium. This is our only fundraiser for general Council operations—help out where you can!

We have had more financial success than expected from this work, which in turn, is enabling us to do more as a Council. If you have not seen the cow bell in action, you don't know what you are missing!

Calendar of Events (continued from page 1)

January TBD	KofC Freethrow Competition
January 17	COUNCIL PLANNING MEETING
February 7	COUNCIL BUSINESS MEETING 8 PM (Church MPR)
February 21	Ash Wednesday
February 22	COUNCIL PLANNING MEETING 8 PM (Church MPR)

Membership

*Julio Alvarez 662-1845
jalvarez8@tampabay.rr.com*

Brothers.

Nine new Brothers took their 1st Degree Exemplification on Tuesday, 10 October, at St Clement Catholic Church at Plant City. The degree honoree was Father Carlos at St Clement. There sixteen members of our Council present—a great show of support!

If you have not done so, check out “Membership 101” on our Council web site. Remember that the best way to recruit a new member is simply to ask. If every member of our Council brought in one new member during the Fraternal Year, our growth would be phenomenal—yet we still will have barely touched our own parish. Let’s continue to make the first Fraternal Year of the Council a banner year for recruitment!

Financial Secretary Corner

*Ed Smith 662-1845
esmith@cookieco.com*

For those of you still carrying around a handwritten membership card, or one from 2006, you probably have not been to a Council meeting recently! To save on postage costs, as well as encourage members to come to meetings, we are not mailing out the cards. See me at a meeting to get your card. If you absolutely cannot make a Council meeting, contact me and we’ll make other arrangements.

It is not too early to begin thinking about the Fraternal Survey. Every year, each Council is required to survey its members in a number of areas—estimated volunteer service hours (church, community, youth, Habitat for Humanity, Special Olympics, and miscellaneous), frequency of blood donations, visits to care for the sick and console the bereaved, and hours of fraternal service. This survey is an important gauge for the Order. In the November newsletter, we will publish a form for each member to fill out, and we try to establish an automated form on our web site. Please help us out by filling out the survey promptly!

Congratulations!

New First Degree Members (Oct)

*Guillermo Bambacj
Joe Colaiani
John Florkiewicz
John Laughman
Mark Lovejoy
Matt Preszler
Brad Shockley
Ed Selyzak
Herb Swoope*

New Second Degree Members

New Third Degree Members

New Fourth Degree Members

Remember—you must be certified by the Grand Knight before you can proceed to 2d and 3d degrees. If you have not received a copy of the steps for advancement, send an email to the membership Director and he will get you a copy. Questions? Contact the Advanced Degree Team (*Eric Sessums 662-2226* or *Greg Celestan 655-4007*) or the Membership Director (*Julio Alvarez 662-1845*).

FAMILY OF THE MONTH

September 2006—John and Rita Joyce

October 2006—John and Maria Cumbia



FOURTH DEGREE REPORT Bishop McGlaughlin Assembly 1850

Faithful Navigator: *Tim Manning, PGK*

Faithful Comptroller: *Curt Davis, PGK*

KNIGHT OF THE MONTH

September 2006—Joe Saski

October 2006—John Sepessy

Bishop McGlaughlin Assembly 1850 meets the Second Fridays of the Month at 7:30 PM Nativity Church Social Hall D.

Next Fourth Degree Exemplification will take place in Orlando Nov 23-25.

KNIGHT IN SHINING ARMOR AWARD

Sick and Distressed

Tony Westbrook (tbrock01@yahoo.com))

Please remember the following Knights in your prayers:

Alan Grundish
Ed Sleyzak
Frank Wuco

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Knights of Columbus
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A Catholic,
Family,
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